

MUS110F

Music History and Culture

In-Class Test — 21 October 2010

90 minutes — No memory aids

(25% of the final course mark)

Your name (please print): _____

Answer all questions in the exam book provided. Write clearly, and number each answer (e.g. Part 1 #1, #2, etc. Part 2 #1, #2, etc.). Not doing so may cost you marks.

Listening: Part 1. (3 x 5 marks)

Three recorded examples will be played. For each example select the one response that best describes the excerpt. Each excerpt will be quite short and will be played twice. There will be a brief pause between each listening example. Only one answer is right.

1. A. Heterogenous timbre, narrow melodic range, non-pulsatile, mostly disjunct melodic motion, homophonic.

B. Homogenous timbre and homophonic texture, multiple voices singing the same melody, wide melodic range, non-pulsatile, mostly conjunct motion.

C. Homogenous timbre, imitative polyphonic texture, melodies stay within a relatively narrow range, similar levels rhythmic activity in each of the parts, mostly conjunct motion in the melodies, transparent texture.

D. Multiple voices of equal importance, slightly metric, sometimes little or no rhythm, equal amounts of conjunct and disjunct writing, dense texture and highly dissonant harmony.

2. A. Antecedent-consequent phrases, clear and bright timbres, includes both idiomatic and non-idiomatic writing, 'transparent' texture, complicated metric structure, wide melodic range.

B. Antecedent-consequent phrases, clear texture, idiomatic writing, uncomplicated harmonic writing, much melodic and motivic repetition, clear metric structure in 3/4.

C. Clear metre in 3/4, irregular and unclear phrase structure, idiomatic writing, very little melodic and motivic repetition, dark and muddy timbre.

Ave Maria,
Josquin.

OVER →

- D. Antecedent-consequent phrases, clear texture, idiomatic writing, uncomplicated harmonic writing, heterogeneous timbre, clear metric structure in 4/4.
3. A. Strong but irregular metre, very active rhythmically, complicated harmony but not atonal, melodic writing in the parts is balanced between disjunct and conjunct motion.
- B. Very bright timbre, atonal harmony, irregular metre but with a strong pulse, high degree of syncopated rhythmic activity, very dense texture with a mainly homogenous timbre, much disjunct writing in the upper melodies.
- C. Very homogeneous timbre, antecedent-consequent melodic writing, quite dissonant but not atonal harmony, regular metre in 4/4, texture is transparent. X
- D. Muddy texture and dark timbre, rhythmically very active but has no metre, highly dissonant and atonal, the melodies move primarily in conjunct motion, the instruments are played in very unconventional ways. X

Listening: Part 2. (2 x 10 marks)

Using point form, write down for each example as much information as you can to describe what you hear. Ensure that you make this information as specific as you can for the item in question. Avoid sweeping generalizations. You are expected to make use of the vocabulary you have picked up during the course so far. NB: Each excerpt will be quite short and will be played twice. There will be a brief pause between each listening example.

Written: (65 marks)

Answer each of the following questions as concisely as possible. Avoid point form unless you are running out of time.

1. Most of our classes have been structured according to the six main style periods of Western. In order, what are those stylistic periods and their dates? (6 marks)
2. Comment briefly on the differences between timbre as an element of composition and as an element of performance. (6 marks)
3. Identify three ways or techniques in which metre can be indicated or established in Western music. (6 marks)
4. What is the difference between rhythm and metre? Can rhythm exist without metre? (10 marks)

5. ✓ What is *recitative*? (5 marks)
6. ✓ What makes *pulsatile* music different from *metred* music? (5 marks)
7. ✓ What is the difference between idiomatic and non-idiomatic writing? (5 marks)
8. ✓ In terms of timbre, what is the difference between homogeneous and heterogeneous sounds? Give a brief descriptive example of each. (6 marks)
9. ✓ What is harmonic rhythm? (5)
10. ✓ Give a concise, workable, all-purpose definition of music (5 marks)
11. ✓ What is polyphony? (6 marks)

Total Possible Marks = 100

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